

MARTIN,
TENNESSEE

THE PACER

Editorial

UTM should be more inclusive of "other" holiday traditions.

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PACERBRIEFS

Dealin' cards
Skyhawk ID cards become debit- and credit-friendly.
— Page 4

There's another Internet?
Discussing "Web 2.0" technology.
— Page 8

Two down, one up
Men drop two, but women Skyhawks beat Memphis on the road.
— Page 10

PACERF.Y.I.

Fruitcake became apart of Christmas tradition in: 1896 Pounds of fruitcake consumed this year will be: 15 MILLION

Source: USDA and Gallup poll

LOCALWEATHER

Tuesday	48	30	
Mostly Sunny			
Wednesday	51	26	
Mostly Sunny			
Thursday	37	18	
Mostly Sunny			
Friday	39	20	
Mostly Sunny			
Saturday	46	26	
Sunny			

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— Free in single copy —

Fall grads to hear UT president Registrar: About 425 degrees this term

Jason Bohanan

UT systemwide President Dr. John Petersen's next visit to UTM will generate a little more pomp and circumstance than usual.

Petersen will be the keynote speaker at UTM's fall commencement ceremony Dec. 16 in the Elam Center. Petersen will become the first UT president to deliver a commencement address at UTM since Dr. Joe Johnson spoke at the 1998 fall ceremony.

About 425 degrees are expected to be awarded, although UTM Registrar Brandy Cartmell says that number will probably change.

"It will fluctuate right up until the day [of commencement]," Cartmell says.

Because of the smaller number of students graduating this semester, soon-to-be graduates will not be limited as to how many

guests they may invite. Last spring's commencement ceremony was UTM's first to limit how many guests each graduating student could invite by requiring each guest to have a ticket.

"When we haven't used tickets in the past there hasn't been a limit as to the number of guests graduates can invite," says Dorothy Gillon, UTM's public occasions coordinator.

Petersen became UT's 23rd president in July 2004. While at UT, Petersen has concentrated on developing a strategic plan for the university that focuses on helping more students in Tennessee earn bachelor's



Petersen

degrees and on research that supports economic development in the state.

The plan, along with UT's new "fUTure" branding campaign, was launched at the first State of the University Celebration in September.

Previously, Petersen served four years as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Connecticut.

Before his stint at Connecticut, Petersen was a chemistry professor and dean of the College of Science at Wayne State University from 1994 to 2000.

Petersen also served as the head of chemistry and associate dean for research in the College of Sciences at Clemson University.

Petersen received a doctorate in inorganic chemistry from the University of California at Santa Barbara

and a bachelor of science in chemistry from California State University.

UTM Chancellor Nick Dunagan will preside over the ceremony and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, UT National Alumni Association Distinguished Service Professor, will serve as mace bearer.

The processional marshals will be Dr. John Schommer, faculty senate president; Dr. Elaine Harriss, faculty senate vice president; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

The UTM Student Brass Quintet will perform special music and music professor Amy Yeung will sing the alma mater. A reception will be held in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following commencement.

Public Safety chief may be named Friday

Will York

UTM's Department of Public Safety may have a new director as soon as Friday, said Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration.

Hooten will choose the new director from three finalists selected by a five-member search committee, but Hooten has yet to announce the names of the three finalists. The committee selected three recommendations from a group of seven individuals the committee interviewed.

About 35 people applied for the position.

"We're still not naming the three at this point out of courtesy to them," Hooten said. "We haven't made any of that public."

"If the three don't work out," Hooten continued, "we can go back to the committee for another recommendation."

After the committee made their recommendation, Hooten called the three finalists back for a second round of interviews with him.

Hooten said he hopes to name a successor to Rick Hatler, who resigned Aug. 31 after a controversial sexual relationship with a female Public Safety officer, "by the end of the week."

Three local candidates are among the publicly released list of seven people interviewed by the committee, including Ray Coleman, interim Public Safety director; Darrell Simmons, UTM lieutenant detective; and Scott Robbins, captain at Martin Police Department.

UTM CELEBRATES Winter Holidays

Jay Baker

Most UTM students know the story of Christmas. Either they know about the somewhat commercialized gift giving holiday or the more traditional celebration of the birth of Jesus. But Christmas is not the only important holiday celebrated by students this time of year.

"I know that we have to be very open and respectful, that we have other cultures on campus," said Teresa Woody, director of Minority Affairs.

Woody urges UTM students to learn a little more about the other holidays celebrated around this time of year.

Hanukkah

"Hanukkah is important because Jewish people look back on times of oppression and they celebrate solidarity and family love," Woody said.

Hanukkah, known by many as the "festival of lights," celebrates the miracle of lamp oil in the temple of Jerusalem meant to burn for a day, burning for eight. Some historians assert that other traditions are the predecessor to Hanukkah, but most Jews associate the holiday relate the holiday in the metaphorical sense that the oil burning for eight days instead of one represents how the Jewish people have survived persecution, oppression and other such trials and tribulations throughout the centuries.

Jews celebrate Hanukkah today by lighting candles (or oil lamps, or in some cases where flame is not permitted, electric lights) and the giving of gifts to children. Originally, coins were given, but most modern Jews give gifts to avoid having their children feel left out of the gift giving in Christian families.

Kwanzaa

"Kwanzaa is a festival that celebrates the African village life. African Americans can also participate in the rituals. It may be a religious belief for those indigenous to Africa, but for us in America it's more of a cultural thing. It reminds us of things we need to be thankful for," Woody said.

— See 'Holidays' on Page 11

Santa's Village unites campus, community for food drive, fun

Staff Reports

Performers are set to take the Santa's Village stage, Dec. 7-10, providing 20 hours of continuous entertainment during the 22nd annual event. Among performers are those from throughout West Tennessee, Fulton and Murray, Ky., Missouri and Mississippi. They range in age from 5 to 75.

Finalists from the Mid-South Youth Talent Show in Memphis, the Tennessee Beta Club Convention in Nashville and overall winners of the Tennessee Soybean Festival and Iris Festival talent shows are among the entertainers to

be featured this year. Also appearing will be youth and adults playing guitars, violins, accordions, trumpets and saxophones; Praise Band, performing Christian and Christmas music; Memory Makers, providing big band era music; and the High Variety vocalists.

This year's "Santa's Winter Wonderland" is slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 7-8; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 9; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 10. Opening ceremony is set for 5:45 p.m., Dec. 7.

Admission is a suggested donation of \$5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.

Santa's Village will feature new scenes, including Santa's Ice Castle and

a winter wonderland carousel. Also featured will be a display erected with 2007 canned foods, a giant Christmas tree, horse-drawn wagon rides, miniature shops, a skating pond and gazebo, an 8' snow globe, Frosty the Talking Snowman, MTD train display, cartoon characters and 54 arts and crafts booths.

Service agencies receiving donations from Santa's Village include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa's Helpers and Chimes for Charity.

UTM serves as a co-sponsor for the event.



UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

UTM freshman Channing Taylor gets ready to build a display of 2,007 cans along with several other students as part of the Santa's Village features this year.

Student Government

Senate looks back, forward Committee to consider scholarship

Heather Roland

Thursday's Student Government Association Senate meeting looked both at the past and towards the future, as it told of SGA's accomplishments thus far, and their aspirations for the spring semester.

SGA President James Orr gave a special presentation listing the accomplishments SGA has made thus far. Orr mentioned contributing to various scholarships such as the Quiz Bowl and Diversity Week Travel Study scholarships and providing monthly forums, which included this year's enticing Yearbook Forum, among many.

Orr said he made "incredible efforts" to speak to as many student organizations as possible this semester.

"I don't think we can effectively represent our students without talking to our student organizations," Orr said.

He continued by saying he has spoken to over 30 different student organizations thus far.

Orr said that while this is a very fulfilling semester, SGA will aspire to have an even more fulfilling spring semester. Orr said that there are several projects that he still wants to do before his term as SGA president is up, including gaining more information on internship opportunities and providing them to students, setting up a résumé drop box and taking part in the chancellor search, which is a big priority.

Another priority of Orr's is to expand the UTM's voter turnout for SGA elections. Orr said only 20 percent of the national student body comes to the polls for SGA elections, and UTM only has a 12 percent voter turnout.

"We have to do something to make sure that our

— See 'SGA' on Page 11

Our View

Editorial:
UTM should inform students
on other traditional holidays

The Pacer staff is glad that the semester is winding down because we're ready for a break and to go home and celebrate the holidays.

Even though most students go home to celebrate Christmas, a lot of students on campus don't celebrate Christmas. However, students only see decoration for Christmas. There's a huge emphasis on Judeo-Christian holidays on campus.

Even though we celebrate Diversity Week during the fall semester, we forget what we preach doing the holidays.

UTM should make other holidays, like Kwanzaa and Hanukkah, more prominent on campus. Many students don't know the traditions of other holidays.

We believe that it's horrible that fellow UTM students don't take the time to

educate themselves on the other cultures surrounding them on campus.

We know that most people say "Happy Holidays" to people so they don't offend anyone on campus. On the other hand, some students might be

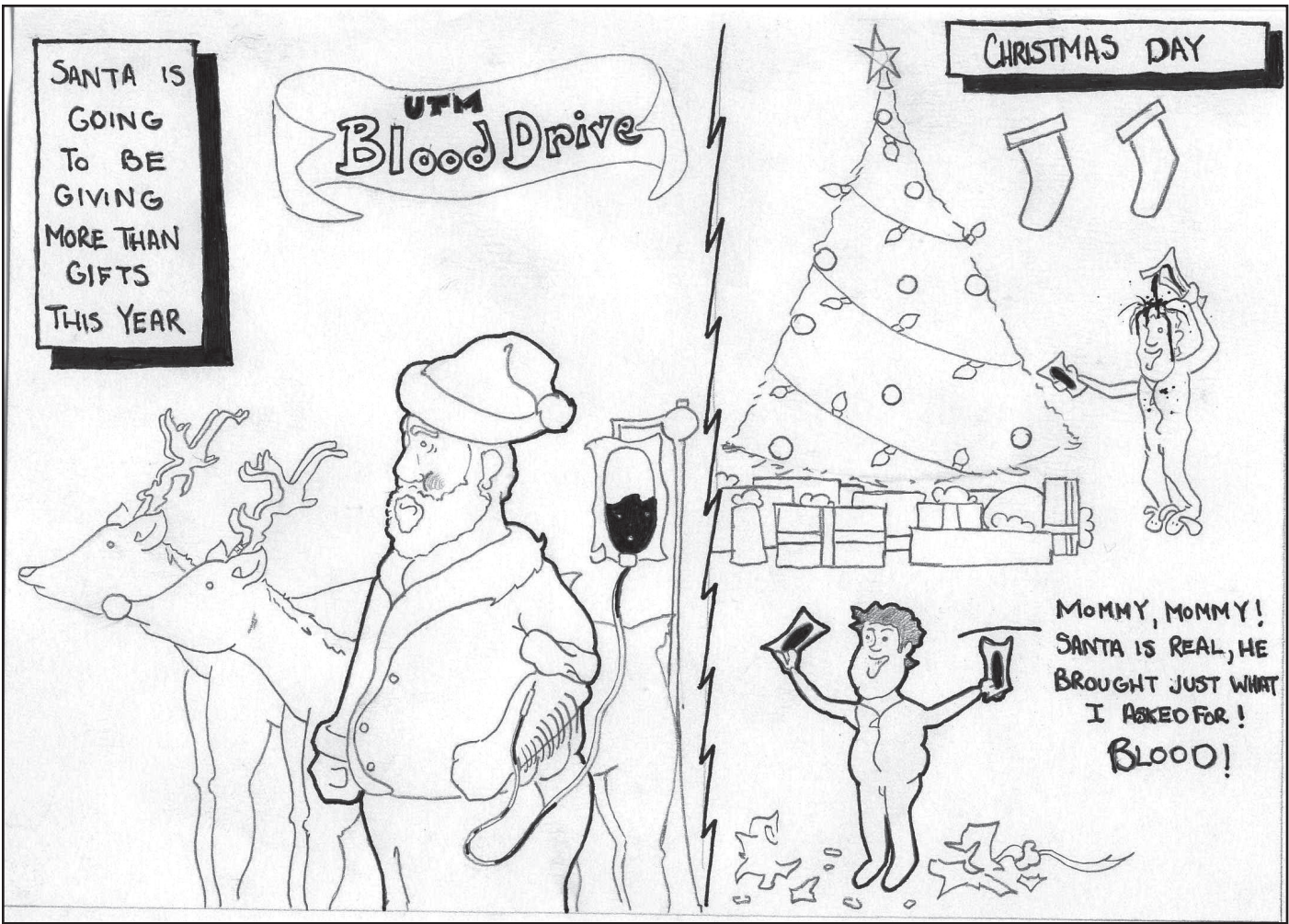
offended or feel left out that UTM doesn't take the time to include them in our holiday cheer.

The university should host a program next fall to educate students on the different holidays that students celebrate.

All people have their traditions during the holiday season, and UTM should embrace all cultures that make up our student body.

The Pacer staff wishes everyone a happy holiday, and for those who don't celebrate any holiday, we hope they have a wonderful winter break.

Christmas is not the only holiday that is celebrated by students during winter holidays



Letters to the Editor

Student expresses his view on reinstating the draft

I was hoping that I would finally make it through an entire semester without ranting about the state of our Union. Alas, it was not to be. My peace of mind was disrupted earlier last week by a startling announcement by New York Representative Charles Rangle.

Rangle, a House Representative from New York, said last Sunday that he would introduce legislation next year to reinstate the draft. Rangle stated that reinstating the draft would bolster troop levels for potential engagements in Iran and North Korea, as well as create a more representative armed forces, which he feels to be too reliant on the lower classes. Rangle also sees the draft as a deterrent for the government, who he is wagering, would think twice before going to war if the draft

returned.

This man wants to gamble with the lives of every man from 18 to 42. Americans have already seen first hand that some politicians, i.e. Bush, cannot be swayed once they have made up their minds to go to war, even when presented with evidence that their decision is without merit. Another swell of flag-waving Nationalism like that generated by 9/11 would be more than enough to allow those in power to march countless sons and brothers to their deaths. And for what: to help career politicians seem tough on terror so they get reelected? No thanks.

Logan Watson
Political Science
Adamsville

Remember people in need during the holiday season

There are many things going during the holidays; shopping, eating, studying,

and just getting ready for finals. I don't know about you, but I always am thinking about all the stuff I need to do and all of the stuff I think I need to make my life better.

I get caught up in my own little world with my own problems and I forget about others. The truth is that I have everything I need to function; water, food, and a roof over my head.

There are a lot of people out in the world, including in Martin, TN who don't have much at all. Being a college student we know how it feels to not have a lot of money.

I think every student here at UTM can take sometime out of their busy schedule to do something nice for someone else; say thanks to a teacher, give your friend a hug, or just say something nice to a stranger to make them smile. You can make someone's day a whole lot brighter.

There are many people in Weakly Co who have less then we do. I am writing this letter to remind the students at UTM that we are lucky to be here, furthering our education. Sometimes we forget about the bigger picture of people out in our community.

We need to give back to those people who don't have much of anything around the holidays. You can put a smile on someone's face just by doing something simple like holding the door open for a few seconds longer for someone, helping someone pick up a dropped paper, or just smiling at someone as they walk by.

Take a few minutes out of your day to do something nice for someone. Once you do that, you will feel the good that comes from helping others.

Katie Mercuri
Communications
Chapel Hill

THE PACER

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Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed in personal columns are those of the writers and may not reflect the opinions of the staff as a whole. Editorials are written by members of the Editorial Board, with contributions from other students, campus administrators or community members on an as-issue basis.

The Pacer invites student organizations to submit press releases at least two weeks ahead of an event. We cannot guarantee the publication of any submitted letter, release or news story.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Story ideas or news tips may be e-mailed to pacer@utm.edu or presented at our weekly staff meetings, held at 5:15 p.m. every Tuesday during the semester. If you are unable to attend these meetings, please contact the Executive Editor to arrange a separate meeting.

The Pacer welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its readership may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor at 314 Gooch Hall, Martin, TN 38238, through e-mail at pacer@utm.edu or via our Web site at http://pacer.utm.edu/write/. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters must be signed and contain the name, major and hometown of the author, as well as contact information. All submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling and brevity. Publication preference will be given to letters of less than 250 words. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Columns or Guest Commentaries should be no longer than 750 words and will require a photo of the author. Publication is based on relevance and quality of the issue and publication is subject to the discretion of the Editorial Board

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

This newspaper is printed every Tuesday during the semester. Our press run ranges from 3,000 to 6,000 copies depending on the edition. The University of Tennessee at Martin earmarks \$3.60 per enrolled student to pay for staff salaries and overhead costs of running our office. The cost of printing the newspaper is covered by advertising revenue.

People don't pay for charity; it is given

Like many other Martinites, and college students around the country, I was up at 2 a.m. and wandering Wal-Mart, Martin's latest attempt at economic stimulation. As I was passing two older women in the Milk/Dairy aisle, one of them turned to the other and said, "isn't it wonderful what Yoplait is doing with those Lids for Life" and I had to stop and see what the heck they were talking about.

Under the lid of each of these products is a cute little pink ribbon and a slogan of "Lids for Life" with the scenario being that you send in these cute little lids and for every lid Yoplait gets, they will donate a WHOPPING ten CENTS to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation but only up to 1.5 million dollars.

I actually had to stand and laugh at what I was seeing.

Yoplait Light Smoothies are about \$1.00 each and you'd have to buy ten of these little suckers for Yoplait to donate one whole dollar. Am I the ONLY one

morally offended by this stupidity? Was I the only one that thought about how underhanded this sort of thing is? At 2 a.m. in the morning – probably.

Disgusted, I put the bottle back and mentally marked "Yoplait" off my list of buyable products. Going down the cereal aisle, I saw "Strawberry Flakes" and the same cute little pink ribbon...and the same ridiculous offer of sending in three box tops and a percentage of sales would be given to "XYZ" Breast Cancer Treatment. On and on this went. Jam and jelly companies pledged a whole \$.15 for every label off their product sent in, cake mixes did the same and the more I saw, the sicker it made me.

What struck me as I was noticing all of this was the same sort of mathematical reasoning that I reported on in one of my earliest columns on vegetarianism. For some reason, people will ALWAYS see the monetary side of things when all other logic fails. These companies APPEAR to be



Christian Ashlar
Staff Columnist

doing the "right" thing by these donations but what they're really doing is cajoling the public into buying their product with the promise of doing "good" with the sales.

There are several things wrong with this theory.

We go back to the economic theory on this. Yoplait asks us to spend ten dollars so they can donate one dollar to Breast Cancer. This means that out of the ten million dollars spent on Yoplait Smoothies (by the proverbial 1 million Americans) that only one million gets spent on Breast Cancer Treatment – while the rest is pocketed by the "do-gooder" company that came up with this brilliant scheme.

My question is – why the pretext of "buy our product and we'll do something good with the money"?

Why not just donate a portion of your already large profits to something worthwhile? Why would you need to manipulate a person into buying MORE of your product with the lofty promise of being a decent member of society and helping those that need help?

What galls me so about this whole thing is that these companies make billions on their products and, by and large, do little to nothing with the proceeds but feed their own monster of greed. Then, they use a particular disease or cause as a way to further line their pockets and the American Sheep line up to be monetarily slaughtered!! If these companies truly wanted to be charitable, their degree of charity would NOT be based on the amount of product sold to the American consumer. It would be an act of generosity and not an act of dollars and cents.

Shame on you, you "pink ribbon bandits". Shame on all of you!

The next edition of The Pacer will be on January 16

Check our website:
pacer.utm.edu

for breaking news during Winter Break

Student tells story about fighting illness and achieving her dreams

In exactly four days my mission at UTM will be complete. I will have accomplished exactly what I set out to do: GRADUATE. Yes, the fantasy of seeing myself in a black cap and gown marching to the graduation theme song is about to be fantasy no more. In exactly four days, I'll hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a News Editorial sequence and English minor. I'll be qualified to work at any newspaper or magazine in all 50 states.

I can't tell you all how excited I am to see just how far this degree will carry me.

Being the only News Ed. major graduating this term, I feel compelled to tell the fated story of how my love for writing manifested.

I developed a general love for the field of Communications while still in high school. I talked my way through the doors of the Dyersburg local cable-com station, WDYR, Channel 53.

My first big assignment was President Bill Clinton's stop through Dyersburg during his 1996 campaign tour for second-term reelection. Broadcasting from the press stands in downtown Dyersburg, I decided I wanted to be a news reporter forever.

I still accredit that day as the most exciting day of my life.

Academically, I began my Communication career in the fall of 1997 at UTM. Professor Dorotha Norton



Bessie Cherry
Guest Columnist

was my Freshman Studies teacher and during the next three years, I was under the wings of the same teachers in the Communications department that you all know and love today.

In 2000, after developing spasmodic dysphonia, a rare trauma-related voice disorder, I was forced to quit college and broadcasting. I'll say in short, the five years that the disorder was at its worst were the darkest days of my life.

Unable to speak, I wrote. Writing became my most effective form of communication. It became my voice. Soon it was evident to me that writing must be in God's great plan for my life.

I returned to UTM in the fall of 2004 to declare a major in News Ed. I didn't expect my old Communications teachers to even recognize me but they did. Most didn't just remember me, but called me by both my first and last name.

That meant the world to me.

It was evident by the expressions on each of their faces that they could see how much the disorder had stolen from me. Nevertheless, they did what they all do best in the department—they graciously supported me in

my efforts to success.

The department also shared in the excitement of my miraculous voice recovery in 2005. I'll never forget walking into Dr. Steinke's office and saying hello for the first time in a strong, clear voice.

He extended his hands into the air just like Al Paccino in "The Devil's Advocate" and said, "You got your voice back because you came back to the family."

December 16, I'll say goodbye to "the family" of Communications one last time. I've made friends within my major that I'll never forget. I'm so proud that our paths have crossed.

Words are supposed to come easy to Communications majors. However, I can't find the words to express my gratitude for the support given to me by the teachers in the department.

Thank you all so much for giving me expert insight on how to make my career dreams come true.

I know without a doubt that I've been taught by the best and I promise to demonstrate the determination needed to attain my gigantic dreams.

Because I believe in speaking my dreams into manifestation, I'll say on a final note that I've got a taste in my mouth to do the "big stuff" within my field...and my wildest dreams consist of a Pulitzer and me thanking my millions of fans.

Corrections and Clarifications:

- In the Nov. 28 edition of The Pacer, two stories from Page 1 were inadvertently not continued to Page 8 as printed. The stories, in their entirety, appear on The Pacer's Web site, <http://pacer.utm.edu>.
- In the Arts & Entertainment section of the Nov. 28 Pacer, the story titled "Rhythms from around the world meet faculty from across the hall" was listed as being written by David Hussey. The staff writer's correct name is Danny Hussey.
- On Page 1 of the Nov. 28 Pacer, some information received in a press release from the Martin Police Department for the story titled "Duo of crashes kills one; crosswalk hit-and-run under investigation" was incorrect. According to the actual MPD accident report, the UTM student involved in the accident on Skyhawk Parkway is named Kyle A. Bond, not Jay Bond. Also, Kyle Bond was attempting to turn left, not right, onto Skyhawk Parkway from Gardner-Hyndsver Road, according to the report.

The Pacer regrets the errors and is happy to set the record straight.

CLASSIFIEDS:

FOR RENT:-- Available now: 1BR studio/loft apartment at Ridgeview Apartments, behind the new Hampton Inn off Hawks Road and Skyhawk Parkway. Kitchen appliances, water, garbage and sewer included. Laundry and weight room on site. \$300 deposit, \$390 per month. Call 587-4293 or 514-0590.
Available Jan. 1, 2007: Two 2BR townhouse apartments at Ridgeview Apartments, behind the new Hampton Inn off Hawks Road and Skyhawk Parkway. Kitchen appliances, water, garbage and sewer included. All townhouses have a full bath upstairs and a half-bath and W/D hookups downstairs. Laundry and weight room on site. \$300

Graduating in December?

Yes
↓

Hate your Skyhawk ID photo?

Yes
↓

Want a different photo in the 2007 yearbook?

Yes
↓

Then get your senior picture made this week!

No → Stop reading

No → Stop reading

No → Stop reading

Tuesday, Dec. 5,
2-6 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 6,
9-11 a.m. & 2-6 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7,
9-11 a.m. & 2-6 p.m.

UC Gameroom

You may also e-mail
a color photo
to tomimc@utm.edu.

The Pacer wishes everyone a
Happy Holidays
and a safe trip returning

To our Pacer staff members
who recently have lost
loved ones:

Christian Ashlar

Zane Gresback

Jason Jackson

Our thoughts are always
with you. May much
happier times lie ahead.

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Debit, credit card easiest way to reload Skyhawk Card

Rebecca Gray
Copy Editor

One of the easiest little-known ways to put money on your Skyhawk card just happens to be one of the safest.

Marsha Brown, administrative specialist for Skyhawk Card Services, says that cardholders have always had the option of depositing money onto their card by calling into the office with a credit or debit card number, but that it just hasn't been heavily utilized because of a scant word-of-mouth popularity.

"Most of the time, there have just been parents that

call in with their card number to put money on their child's card," said Brown.

Brown wants to ensure cardholders that this easy and convenient option is especially helpful and extremely safe for those students who simply may not be able to come by the Skyhawk Card Office.

Instead of going to the card office, a person can call the office and talk to a staff member who fills out a receipt form which also states their credit or debit card number.

If the staff member needs the caller to clarify any information, he or she will ask the caller to repeat it,

which will prevent the chance of any other person present in the office of also knowing that information. The staff member then enters the number into a credit card machine.

After money is put on the Skyhawk card, a receipt is available to be picked up at the card office, but Brown says that it will not be mailed to the cardholder to ensure that the mail will not be tampered with. All office and customer copies of receipts are then kept on file in the office.

Another way cardholders can put money onto their card without going to the card office is by sending a

personal check by mail to the office with their university-issued ID number written on the check.

A customer receipt is then retained in the card office. Cardholders can also put money on their card with the help of Valuports located in Humanities computer lab and the library by swiping the cards at the port and inserting a cash amount into the machine.

Beginning August 2007, Brown said that Skyhawk Card Services will allow students to deposit money onto their Skyhawk card through the Internet by using a credit or debit card number.



For more information, contact Skyhawk Card Services at 881-7825 or 881-7974. They are open from 8

a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

How to help others during the holidays

Holly Perry
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving is over now, and Christmas is just around the corner.

Many people have already begun their stressful holiday shopping filled with large crowds and long lines in hopes of finding the best deal on their gifts for a special someone. Some people do not get to enjoy this luxury, if you can call it a luxury, but you can help these families have a much brighter holiday.

Hundreds of charities sponsor programs at this time of year to aid those who are less fortunate. Because it is often difficult to figure out which programs to support, here's a sample of charities being sponsored in the area this year:

•Santa's Village for We Care Ministries

Sponsored by Martin Parks and Recreation, C.E. Weldon Public Library, & UT Martin

Who Can Participate: Anyone

Contact Information: Martin Parks and Recreation, 587-6784

How It Works: Santa's Village is held at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at UTM, and admission is a suggested donation of \$5 worth of nonperishable food and/or toys. These items benefit local charities, such as Chimes for Charity.

Deadline: Santa's Village will open on Dec. 7-8 from 6-9 p.m., Dec. 9 from 11 a.m.- 9 p.m., and Dec. 10 from 1-5 p.m.

•Save Lids to Save Lives

Sponsored Locally by Sodexho & Zeta Tau Alpha

Who Can Participate: Anyone

Contact Information: Coco Boone, 881-1390, cocob@utm.edu

How It Works: Donate PINK Yoplait lids on campus at JW's Market in the University Center, Gooch Hall, Ellington Hall, or Browning Hall. This fundraising event will provide money toward research that will benefit the cure for Breast Cancer. For each lid donated, Yoplait will contribute 10 cents to the Foundation, up to \$1.5 million.

Deadline: Dec. 8, 2006

•Outback Victim Assistance Program

Sponsored by SABER

Who Can Participate: Anyone

Contact Information: Dr. Jennifer Y. Levy, 881-7720

How It Works: Participants are asked to donate toiletry items, household items, school supplies, clothing, and extras such as makeup items and jewelry. Also, new or gently used toys and children's books would be appreciated.

Deadline: End of the Semester. Donations may be brought to the Counseling Center on the second floor of the University Center.

•Can Caravan for Santa's Village

Sponsored by SAAC

Who Can Participate: Anyone

Contact Information: Danelle Fabianich, 881-7663, danellef@utm.edu

How It Works: Donations of canned foods are needed.

Deadline: Dec. 8, 2006

EBSCO electronic database receives updates

Amanda Cherry
Staff Writer

A company-scheduled update occurred on November 19 for the EBSCO electronic database—a database which helps several UTM students and faculty obtain research information on a variety of topics.

The database was scheduled to be down from 6 a.m. until 1 p.m., to have the least possible impact on students.

The EBSCO database is a group of databases on the UTM library Web site that receives about 20,000 hits a week. It consists of top-

ics such as business, health professions, animals, geology and more.

With this update being so close to the end of the semester, many individuals were concerned with how it would affect students engaging in end-of-the-semester term papers.

Several students use the electronic databases available through the Paul Meeks Library. Students can obtain various scholarly reviewed publications for various topics.

These electronic databases are very valuable to students, as they are the most commonly called-for

resource by college professors today.

College professors are not looking for the major resources of a student's paper to come from the Internet any more as it provides several noncredible sources. Therefore, professors want more credible sources, in which electronic databases provide.

Jim Nance, who is partially in charge of library databases, said "The downtime should have very little impact on students." Nance said the update was scheduled by the company and therefore he had no control over the time it was to occur.

cur.

Nance said he felt the scheduled downtime was posted early enough that students could complete tasks before the system became inaccessible for a time.

The updates were scheduled to help the system run more smoothly and renew the information in the databases.

While these updates are a minor inconvenience to students for a period of one day, they ultimately pay off for UTM students and faculty.

Winter car care tips can save money and lives

Zona Ascensio
Staff Writer

Oh, the weather outside is frightful! Have you properly winterized your car yet?

If you haven't, you should because, with all the expenses of the winter season, you don't want car trouble to be one of them.

The Department of Motor Vehicles offers the following tips for making sure your vehicle is up to par for the cold weather:

- Check your engine oil. Use thinner oil when the temperatures get below freezing.
- Check your battery. According to the DMV, "Your battery capacity is

reduced by the cold weather. A thorough inspection of your battery, cables, terminals, and fluid will help you make sure your car is ready for the winter.

- Take care of your windshield. Use a non-freezing windshield washing solution, but be careful not to get something so harsh that it causes damage to your car's paint.
- Emergencies happen. Keep a kit ready. You should always keep a few things in the trunk in case of an emergency during any season of the year, but, in the winter, the DMV recommends including these in the kit: flares, blankets, boots, radio, engine oil, washer fluid, coolant, flash

lights.

Mark Lundquist, manager of Master Muffler and Brake in Martin, gives the following advice in addition to the DMV's tips:

- Have your brakes checked. "In the winter, you'll be driving on ice and wet pavement," said Lundquist. "You're going to need good brakes."
- Make sure your tires are good for winter. They should have decent tread because, once again, you will be driving on ice. The front tires are most important.
- Check your tires' air pressure. As it gets colder, your tires will lose pressure. There is a big difference in how much pressure you'll

have in summer and how much you will have when the temperatures are below freezing if you do not get them weather-ready.

- Be sure you have the proper amount of antifreeze. According to MSN.com, the proper mix of water and antifreeze is "...usually about 50/50."
- Have your thermostat checked. It is important in regulating your engine's temperature, a part of your car that would be very costly to replace.

When it comes to taking care of your car, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Making your vehicle winter-ready will only save you in the long run.

Internships valuable opportunity for grads entering working world

Rachel Rogers
A&E Editor

When you finally graduate and head out into the real world, one of the things that employers always seem to ask for is experience. However, when you're in college and using up most of your time to study and graduate, how can you get any experience in your field?

Simple — Internships.

The Student Government Association has been working to help students find those valued internships. According to SGA President James Orr, SGA has been "looking at what all the colleges are doing in regards of internships. Then we want to compare it to other universities and see what we need to do to set UTM apart."

One of the things that Orr believes is essential to this is to advertise internship programs, to let the students be aware of the fact that UTM has a number of internships available. "By doing this, it will help students get jobs and make the university more marketable," said Orr.

Orr believes that the UTM Web site should have more information regarding internships, because not all of the students have access to internship information. "Other schools have more information on their websites regarding internships, and I believe we should, too," says Orr.

Tomi Parrish, who is the Internship Coordinator for the Department of Communications, says that internships "are a wonderful opportunity to help students get the experience they need to compete in today's job market. I don't think their value can be overrated."

While there are only two branches of the

Communications program that require internships, Parrish says that the department will work to help any student that asks for help finding an internship in their field. "We also help students look for sum-

mer jobs within their major, even if it isn't a 'formal' internship program."

When a student comes in asking about an internship, Parrish says that she will first sit down with the student and find out what they want to gain from the internship and their future work goals. "Some students come in with a very clear definition of what they want, and that's always a help."

While Parrish doesn't use a book to help find internships, she has no trouble in finding helping her students out. "We have contracts with businesses who will take our students, but sometimes a venue will open up, thanks to an internship a student has completed in the past. For example, we had a young lady who did an internship at Girl Scouts of Cumberland Valley last summer, so now that is a place that we can look at seriously when arranging an internship."

Some of the business that the Communications Department has contracts with include Goodyear, the Obion County Public Library, Jackson/Madison County General Hospital, and Schmidt Relations in Nashville.

Of course, one thing that's needed for an internship, or to get a job, are resumes. And for those students who aren't quite sure if their resume is what it needs to be, SGA has offered some help: the resume drop-box.

"We've been working with Career Services to help students develop their resumes," says Orr. "The resume drop-box is a place where students can drop off a description of a job or a graduate program they wish to try for. We will then send them to Career Services. This will be to help students get feedback on their resumes."

Internships are something that Orr believes is critical. "The complete student needs the ability to gain leadership skills, get along with people, and get experience. Internships can do all of that."

LIFELINE

Blood Services

BLOOD DRIVE

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dec. 5 - 6

U.C. Cafeteria Lobby

Types O and B blood are especially needed!

Special Note to African-Americans:
Because there are some rare blood antigens unique to African-Americans, it is hard to find compatible blood types for patients suffering from diseases like sickle cell anemia. Often, their best match for a blood transfusion comes from African-American donors.

Gift basket will be given away to lucky winner!

Hildebrand named as university travel consultant; several options for UTM student travel this year

Ashley Tyndall
Staff Writer

Jeffrey Hildebrand has been hired by the UTM Center for Global Studies and International Education as a university travel consultant.

In the mornings, Hildebrand will work on all arrangements necessary for travel-study programs and university-related trips planned by faculty, administration and staff. Part of his role, he said, is to arrange staff conferences and educational trips as needed for any university employee. History professor Stan Sieber is still the university's travel-study coordinator and will also remain available to help employees with travel questions.

However, Hildebrand said he will be available in the afternoons to help university employees arrange non-business travel if they need assistance.

Hildebrand's office is 124A Gooch Hall, his extension is 3581, and he will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. He can also be reached via e-mail at jhildebrand@utm.edu.

Dr. Paul Crapo, director of the Center for Global Studies, said the Center is planning an open house for Hildebrand sometime after the beginning of the spring 2007 semester.

Meanwhile, the university is sponsoring at least three travel-study opportunities during spring break, including trips to Venezuela, northern Spain and eastern Canada. Following are the details:

•South America/Venezuela – During spring break, students will experience the diversity of natural and cultural features offered by this nation. The Andes Mountains and the cities of Merida, Santa Ana, San Miguel and Bocono, also called the garden of Venezuela, are among the sites to be visited. The group also will travel to the Gran Sabana, which is home to Angel Falls, the highest waterfall in the world. For more information, contact Helmut Wenz, professor of geography, at 881-7438 or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at 881-7467.

•Northern Spain – Dr. Daniel Nappo, interim chair of the UTM Department of Modern Foreign Languages will guide this trip from March 7-19.

The trip will include visits to Madrid, Zaragoza and Barcelona. Madrid, the Spanish capital with nearly 5.5 million people, will offer students the opportunity to visit world-class museums and various historical sites.

Some of the featured sites include the Prado Museum, home of the largest Velázquez and Goya public collections in the world; the Reina Sofía Museum, home of Picasso's masterpiece, "Guernica"; the medieval city of Toledo; the Roman aqueduct of Segovia; and a Sunday bullfight in Las Ventas, the legendary "plaza de toros" of Spain. Students will stay one day and one night in Zaragoza, where they will visit the famous Palace of the Aljafería. Rounding out the trip in Barcelona, participants will visit the Picasso Museum, stroll down las Ramblas and experience the architecture of Antoni Gaudí, Spain's most celebrated and mysterious architect. Additional Barcelona highlights include a visit to the Montserrat monastery, which is nestled in the mountains and offers students a breathtaking view of the countryside of Catalunya.

In all three cities, students will have the opportunity to shop for souvenirs and experience Spanish cuisine and culture.

The cost of the trip is \$2,500 and includes round-trip air fare from Memphis to Amsterdam to Madrid and from Barcelona to Amsterdam to Memphis; round-trip bus service from Martin to Memphis; 11 nights of hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy); hotel service charges and taxes (VAT); transportation in Spain on trains and chartered buses; admission to all events including the bullfight; a daily buffet breakfast; and a farewell dinner in Barcelona.

UTM credits in Spanish, strategic management and business policy, and/or business administration international study will be available to qualified participants.



Hildebrand

ipants.

For more information or to see an itinerary, contact Nappo at 881-7420 or 881-7428.

•Eastern Canada – Students will visit Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City from March 8-17. Students will first visit Montreal, a city that offers historic sites, ethnic neighborhoods and modern businesses and shopping districts.

Among featured stops are the Jacques Cartier Square, China Town, Little Italy, the Notre Dame Basilica, the downtown underground shopping center and the "Royal Mount," from which students will have a view of the city's skyline. Students will travel next to Ottawa, where they will visit the Parliament, the Canadian Supreme Court and Canada Foreign Affairs.

The National Gallery of Canada, the Rideau Canal and the ByWard outdoor market are among other stops. Quebec City will take students back to the 17th and 18th centuries with historic sites associated with Cartier, Champlain and the English conquest of Canada. Students will visit the Chateau Frontenac, the Quebec "National Assembly," the Ministry of International Relations and the Old City, which is set on a cliff overlooking the St. Lawrence River.

The cost is approximately \$1,800 and includes round-trip flight, ground transportation in Canada and hotel room (double occupancy) for nine nights. The cost of meals is not included.

In all three cities, students will have the chance to shop for souvenirs and experience authentic cuisine in Canadian, Quebec and ethnic restaurants.

For more information and/or an itinerary, call Dr. Paul Crapo, director of the Center for Global Studies and International Education, at 881-1023.

University Relations contributed to this report.

International helium shortage affects UTM

Ekaterina Marchenko
Staff Writer

An ongoing international helium shortage has reached Martin and can already be felt by local businesses and UTM.

There are only two helium plants in the United States. One is in Kansas and the other one is in Texas. Both are responsible for about 40 percent of helium to be used in the United States.

Gary Mansfield, specialist in the Chemistry Department, noted that the United States is probably the world's largest producer of helium; however some of it is being purchased down in South America, where both plants have been down for about two months.

"There have been construction delays announced by both plants and they are saying it may be some time after the first of the

year before they are back up and running at 100 percent," says Mansfield.

Bureau of Land Management is a governmental agency that oversees helium resources and its distribution. It had set the priorities for scant helium usage, which include military operations, medical uses and educational research facilities.

"Most places get an estimated 80 percent of what has been ordered because of the delay due to the helium rationing. I was afraid my instruments will go down, because of the delay it took for helium delivery," says Mansfield. "I keep a certain surplus of helium in case of emergency."

Since mid-June helium prices have increased 17-35 percent in production. UTM chemistry lab contains one NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) machine that

uses helium gas. NMR machine, which is related to an MRI machine, is the most important instrument used in chemistry labs. Liquid helium is used as a super cooling agent that runs this machine, and this is one major element that has currently been in short supply. NMR is very critical in teaching organic and analytical chemistry.

The Chemistry Department doesn't have any helium manufacturing machines. It is good to keep some small surplus of helium, but too much will just evaporate.

"I received notice in the mail today from our gas supplier, Airgas, that we are being rationed and will receive only 40 percent of our requested amounts of helium until the situation changes," says Mansfield.



Police Report

The information contained in this report is taken directly from public records distributed by the UTM Department of Public Safety. DPS can be contacted by calling (731) 881-7777.

**10:21 a.m., November 21
Lot 3**

Subject reported the loss of personal property.

**10:49 a.m., November 21
Lot 9**

Traffic accident involving two vehicles.

**12:41 p.m., November 23
University St.**

Mr. Al Rakan Abdul Rahman was issued a citation for driving without a license and seat belt violation (General Sessions Court).

**1:25 a.m., November 26
Cooper**

Subject reported to be having a panic attack. Officers and emergency personnel responded. Subject was treated on the scene and transported by EMS.

**7:38 a.m., November 29
Administration Buuilding**

Mr. Randall McKinney was arrested for writing worthless checks (General Sessions Court).

**11:27 a.m., November 29
University St.**

Ms. Antonia Razo was issued a citation for violation of light law and no insurance (General Sessions Court).

**10:31 a.m., November 29
Lovelace St.**

Mr. Ali Almashama was issued a cita

tion for obstructing traffic, no insurance and no driver's license (General Sessions Court).

**9:58 a.m., November 30
UTM**

Report of fire alarms sounding at the library, stalling barn and football building. Officers and fire department responded. It was determined that condensation build-up in the duct work set them off. All of the alarms were reset.

**9:08 a.m., November 30
University Center**

Report of the theft of university property. Investigation continues.

**10:30 a.m., November 30
University Courts**

Subject reported the theft of personal property. Investigation continues.

**3:01 a.m., December 1
ROTC**

Report of the fire alarm sounding. Officers and fire department responded. It was determined to be a faulty sensor. The alarm was reset.

**9:21 a.m., December 1
UTM**

Two vehicles were towed for excessive tickets.

**1:28 p.m., December 2
Hannings Lane**

Mr. Sergio A. Bustillo was issued a citation for expired registration (City Court).

Campus Bulletin Board

The Pacer provides this space free of charge to campus clubs and organizations that wish to promote events or offerings. Items to appear in The Pacer's "Campus Bulletin Board" section must be submitted at least a week ahead of the event, either by e-mail to pacer_news@utm.edu or by dropping off a flier and press release to 314 Gooch Hall. Preference is given by event date closest to printing and by order received. Please note that submission does not necessarily guarantee printing. Call (731) 881-7780 for more information.

Pacer Meetings

Want to write for the student newspaper? Pacer meetings are every Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. in Gooch 316. Come sign up for a story so that you can see your byline in next week's issue of the student newspaper.

Spanish Club

All students are encouraged to join the UTM Spanish Club. Come and learn all about Spanish culture, participate in service activities and much more. Meetings are held at 4 p.m. every other Wednesday in HU 413. Everyone is invited to attend.

Bible Study

Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church is hosting a H.Y.P.E. Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at the white house on the campus of Southside Baptist Church. Come get the word and

have fun while doing it. If you need a ride, call 587-5124, but please call ahead of time.

English Writing Center

The English Writing Center is available for students who need help Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in HU 209. The writing lab will close for the fall semester on December 15. There is also an online writing lab. Simply e-mail your questions to owl@utm.edu.

UTM Recycling Group

A new student group is forming to help promote recycling and environmental issues on the campus of UTM. The group is meeting every Wednesday at 12:15 in the back room of the UC (room 125). For more information, send an e-mail to utm.recycling@gmail.com.

Theatre Auditions

Vanguard Theatre will hold auditions for its springs production of *The Left Hand Singing* by Barabara Lebow on December 4 and 5. The auditions will be held at 7 p.m. nightly in room 235 of the Fine Arts Building and are open to anyone on campus. There are four female roles and two male roles available.

Blood Donation

Be an angel to someone this Christmas season and give the gift of life. Please donate blood when the Lifeline Bloodmobile visits UTM on December 5 and 6 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the UC. All donors will receive a free drawstring backpack.

Presentation of Science Papers

Tri-Beta will host their second annual Poster Presentation of Science Papers from 12-2 p.m. on December 5 in Brehm Hall.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes will be awarded.

Campus Interviews

This is a good way for seniors and graduates to practice their interviewing skills and maybe even get a job offer. They must have a resume referral file with current resumes on file with our office before they can interview. The next campus interview will be on December 8 for the position of an Internal Association Agent. All majors are welcome. For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Employment Information Services, 215 University Center.

Stress-Free Zone

Stress-Free Zone offers all students and faculty a chance to relax and have fun. The event will be held in room 230 of Boling University Center from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 11-14. There

will be free massages given by the professionals of Styles on Broadway and Phoenix Rising Massage Therapy. Door prizes will be given away every hour. There will also be refreshments, arts and crafts and games. Those who attend will also have the opportunity to decorate cookies and make collages. Stress-Free Zone has been hosted by the Counseling Center for the past five years. For more information on the event, contact Dr. Jennifer Levy, director of the Counseling Center, at jlevy@utm.edu.

Confirm Enrollment

Every student must confirm enrollment for Spring 2007 by January 11, 2007. You may either mail the confirmation slip that comes with your tuition bill or confirm online. Enroll now for electronic deposit.

Superman, pirates, books and video games, oh my!

December shows no slacking in the world of entertainment

Emily Knight
Staff Writer

The holiday season is here, and there are plenty of reasons why you should know all of the latest in movies, books, and games. We have a long break ahead of us and boredom is anticipated for most. And don't forget to finish filling that Christmas list with all your favorites in entertainment and indulge friends and family with the best gift ideas.

The number of new-release DVD's this season is overwhelming, with a variety of movies to fit everyone's tastes. A few of the most popular being *Superman Returns*, *Clerks II*, *Ant Bully*, and *See No Evil*.

Pirates of the Carribean - Dead Man's Chest is also out on DVD today. Orlando Bloom, Johnny Depp and Kiera Knightly star in the sequel about the infamous Captain Jack Sparrow whose captured by the undead pirate, Davy

Jones, interrupts the wedding of Will Turner and Elizabeth Swann. Jones is in search of a magical compass that Jack possesses and Will and Elizabeth are in search of each other.

Other brand new releases include *Beerfest*, about two brothers and their trip to Oktoberfest, and *Pulse*, where a computer hacker discovers a way to channel signals to a spirit world and use technology to take human lives.

November was a big month for the release of new top-seller books. Author James Patterson tells a story about a detective, Alex Cross, who is in search for a killer linked to the death of Cross' wife in his new book, *Cross*. Michael Chrichton's new book titled *Next*, tells of the world in ways that challenge our sense of reality and a time of scientific advancements that disproves the impossible. If suspense is your style, *Hollywood Station* by Joseph Wambaugh is right up your alley. This novel tells of realistic events as it follows a group of LAPD cops on their day by day patrols and pursuits of criminals. It presents an insider's view of the LAPD and the thrilling, yet sometimes tragic occurrences they endure, and is written in a powerful and graphic manner.

Though the arrival of new books and movies has been in

high demand, nobody can overlook the immense popularity of new game systems like the Nintendo Wii, X-Box 360, and Playstation 3. The new PS3 is claiming to be a brilliant, high-definition entertainment experience, with capabilities like online live competition and system capability, meaning that games from the first two Playstations and the Playstation Portable can also be played on the new system. The X-Box 360 is a more dramatic, expansive and life-like version of the previous X-Box systems and comes in two configurations. The regular X-Box 360 is said to be the ultimate console for the most serious gamer, and the X-Box 360 Core System is made for the beginning gamer and starts with the basics.

Neither of these systems surpass the recognition and demand for the new Nintendo Wii, which has changed the way video games are played. Instead of the classic controllers Nintendo fans are used to, the Wii Remote is wireless, held in one hand and motion sensitive. The remote is used as it is on screen for whatever game you choose to play. For example, if you are playing golf, the remote acts as the club and in a driving game, it acts as the steering wheel, therefore adding more physical activity and personal involvement

Film directors show that they know how to ruin a good book

Rachel Rogers
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Call me a dork, geek or whatever you wish, but I like to read.

Yes, I am one of those people who actually picks up a book for fun. Anne Rice, Stephen King, and J.R.R. Tolkien all have esteemed places around my apartment. So whenever a movie based on a book is coming out in theatres, I happily count down the days until it's released. (*Eragon*, you're next.) And while I admit that most movie adaptations usually make me proud, there have been quite a number of times that I've had to resist the urge to stand up in the middle of the movie theatre and chunk a shoe at the screen. Or at least demand my money back.

For instance, let's take a look at Anne Rice. When *Interview with a Vampire* came out, I was pretty excited. Granted, I was a little ticked at Antonio Banderas being picked to play Armand, who was 17 at the time and had blond hair, I was pretty happy with the overall adaptation. And so

Commentary

when *Queen of the Damned* was released, I was there on opening night.

I nearly cried when it was over. While it was a good movie in itself, the book had been mangled. For some odd reason, people had decided to skip over *The Vampire Lestat*, which is the second book in her Vampire Chronicles, and make *Queen of the Damned*. So, of course, they decided that they would smash two books into one movie. For instance, Marius did not make Lestat. Magnus did. Granted, he's only in the book for two seconds, but he was still the maker of Lestat. And David was supposed to be old! He doesn't turn young again until he trades bodies with a body snatcher.

What about movies like *V for Vendetta* or *Constatine*? From what I've heard, John Constantine was a blond Brit, not Keanu Reeves. And there were some part of *V* that I was upset with after having read the graphic novel first. I'm not going to even mention *League of Extrordinary Gen-*

tlemen. While the graphic novel is good, and the movie was good, there was not too much in common between the two, except the characters. And even then there was some issues. Where the hell did Tom Sawyer come from??

Of course, I can understand how they take some artistic cuts for some films. If they didn't, we'd have to spend two or three days at the movie theatre just to watch one *Harry Potter* or *Lord of the Rings* movie. And those, thank God, stuck fairly close to the books. So did *Chronicles of Narnia*, and we hope the rest of those films continue the tradition. But simply screwing stuff up because you can? Way to go, film directors. You've managed to turn people off from reading now.

However, I would like to send Ron Howard a big thank you. The *DaVinci Code* was wonderful. And we can all thank the heavens that Uwe Boll hasn't managed to get his grubby little hands on book movies yet. If that's the case, then we can forget ever seeing a good book movie ever again.

A medley of musical moments: UTM shows it has talent



MEGHAN GREEN/ The Pacer

Joanna Robbins performs during her recent senior clarinet recital. She is accompanied by Delana Easley.



MEGHAN GREEN/ The Pacer

Kim Kraft was featured as one of the soloists during the Fall Choral Concert.



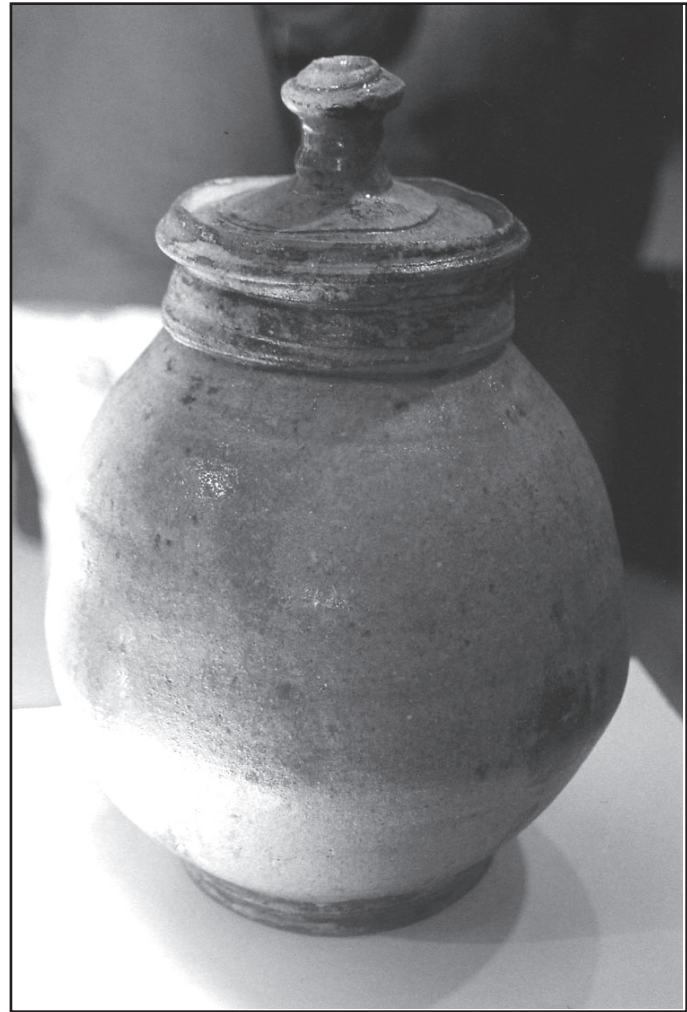
MEGHAN GREEN/ The Pacer

Justin Condron performs a piece at his senior trombone recital



MEGHAN GREEN/ The Pacer

Phi Mu Alpha music fraternity performed their annual Benefit Christmas Concert in which they raised over \$250 going toward the Lake County Middle School Band program.



The UTM Department of Visual and Theatre Arts fall faculty exhibition features work by professor David McBeth in “One Potter’s Journey: A Reagan Leave Visual Narrative.” The exhibition is displayed in the Fine Arts Gallery through Dec. 15 and includes wood-fired pottery. McBeth crafted his pieces at various locations throughout the United States, including Barron County, Wis.; Gatlinburg, Tenn.; Smithville, Tenn.; and Sugar Grove, Ill.

E-BeanSwitch has been launched

UTM’s literary magazine makes its online debut

Staff Reports

BeanSwitch, UTM’s literary and visual arts magazine, made its electronic debut Nov. 30 as E-BeanSwitch during the magazine’s fall publication party. Contributors, staff and guests joined magazine adviser Dr. Leslie LaChance, assistant professor of English, in viewing the online edition and hearing some of the pieces read. The latest version contains 11 works of poetry and fiction and 12 works of art, all original creations by UTM students from various majors. The magazine can be viewed at <http://beanswitch.utm.edu>. “The publication party is always fun because it gives the contributors a chance to connect with readers, and with each other, in person,” LaChance said. “It’s always enlightening to hear an author read his or her work and then to have the opportunity for conversation afterwards. And it’s interesting to have conversations with the artists about how they made a particular

work of art.” LaChance praised magazine Executive Editor Mattie Davenport and Design Editor Mark Shelton, along with other student staff members and contributors, for their work in developing the online edition. “We’re excited about having our very first online issue. It actually gives our students a chance to share their work with a worldwide audience; the online issue is an international publication,” LaChance said. The idea of creating an online issue springs partly from the world of e-zines, where more interactive multimedia and animations can be incorporated into the “publication” process, as well as the desire on LaChance’s part to give her students more publishing opportunities. “Students who intend to work in the world of professional publishing as writers, editors or designers need experience in both print and electronic publications. So we decided to do one of

each type of publication per year,” LaChance said. “If students do an online BeanSwitch issue in the fall and a print issue in the spring, they will have a broader range of experience than they would get by simply doing just one or the other type of publication. Having the skills to work both in print and online will make our students more professionally competitive when they graduate and look for jobs.” The spring edition of BeanSwitch will be a print publication and should arrive in late April, LaChance said. The submission deadline and first reading/art show will likely be in mid-February, which will give student writers and artists about a month to work up their best stuff for submission after returning to school for the spring semester, she said. Students who would like to get involved in production of the magazine can e-mail the staff at beanswitch@utm.edu.

Weekend box office results

Title	Weekend Gross	Total Gross
1. <i>Happy Feet</i>	\$17,045,000	\$121,000,000
2. <i>Casino Royale</i>	\$15,100,000	\$115,863,000
3. <i>Deja Vu</i>	\$11,032,000	\$44,091,000
4. <i>The Nativity Story</i>	\$8,025,000	\$8,025,000
5. <i>Deck the Halls</i>	\$6,650,000	\$24,991,000
6. <i>The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause</i>	\$5,006,000	\$73,152,000
7. <i>Borat</i>	\$4,825,000	\$116,320,000
8. <i>Turistas</i>	\$3,540,000	\$3,540,000
9. <i>Stranger Than Fiction</i>	\$3,400,000	\$36,955,000
10. <i>National Lampoon’s Van Wilder: The Rise of Taj</i>	\$2,295,000	\$2,295,000

WE WANT YOU!

... to write for The Pacer.

Staff Meetings: Tuesdays - 5:15 Gooch 316

Fall

Austin Reed

WARDROBE SALE

For Homecoming • Socials • Holiday Events

Wednesday - Saturday, Oct. 25th - Oct. 28th

AUSTIN REED SUITS

(Entire Inventory/Reg. to \$485)

*Save \$25.00 on any additional suit in our inventory

SAVE \$100.00

AUSTIN REED SPORTCOATS

(Entire Inventory/Reg. to \$295)

*Save \$10.00 on any additional sportcoat in our inventory

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Matt Cook, Technical Editor • E-mail: pacer_tech@utm.edu

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to the
connected world.

From the Geek Corner

Web 2.0, Thisnext and Final Fantasy on deck

This week in The Technophile Jay and I are branching out: in addition to our normal product reviews and Web sites of the week, we are including pieces on Web 2.0 and a review of the last great game for Playstation 2: Final Fantasy XII.

First, we look at what exactly Web 2.0 is. How does it affect your life and how will it impact our future? Will there be a Web 3.0? Why should you care? Check out my article for a definition and a brief look at Web 2.0's short history.

Second we take an in depth look at the latest great game from Square Enix: Final Fantasy XII. This graphics-rich game has the potential to keep players busy for days on end...I know I would play it just to listen to the incredible soundtrack. But should you buy it? Read Jay's article to see what he thinks of its different aspects.

Then we take a look at a relatively unknown shopping site that adheres to Web 2.0 principles: thisnext.com. Thisnext is a site that all online shoppers need to



Matt Cook
Technical Editor

It is our collaborative effort to connect UTM to a connected world.

check out this holiday season to find the best prices other users have found and see the other items people think are high commodities.

Finally, on behalf of The Pacer staff and our technical writers let me thank you for your support and readership. Our lives would be quite boring

on Mondays without the rush of putting together The Technophile to inform UTM about the world of technology.

It is our collaborative effort to connect UTM to a connected world.

If by chance, you are tired of reading what just a select few of us have to say about the world of technology, I encourage you to email your opinions to pacer_tech@utm.edu or email with a story idea if you want to contribute.

Web site of the week

www.flash.net
.html .com
www.thisnext.com

Jay Baker
Asst. News Editor

All semester, I have tried to bring insightful new Web sites to you, the reader. I have also tried to focus mainly on sites that incorporate some of the niftier new aspects of Web 2.0, especially the large new trend of social sites. This week's Web site of the week falls along these same lines, thisnext.com.

Thisnext does for shoppers what sites like digg and Newsvine did for news: empowered consumers. The basic premise is this: Suppose you are in the market for a new digital camera. You click around on Froogle and eBay but to no avail. You ask your friends, but they do not really know anything about digital cameras. You hit up the guy at Best Buy, but for some reason, he recommends the most expensive one ... Now here's where Thisnext comes in, you point your browser there and search for "digital camera." Your search returns several cameras ranked by how many other Thisnext users recommend them. You click on the one with the most recommendations and read some of the reviews written by other people who have purchased or used the camera. After going through some of the different cameras reviews on



Thisnext, you settle on one that other users described as fitting your taste. Now with a little (objective) knowledge about what you want, you can head to Best Buy or eBay or wherever.

Thisnext doesn't have the snazzy design of other Web 2.0 sites, but it's not really lacking either. Besides, something has to be said for those willing to go minimalist. It has great usability features as well. For example, you can compose "shopcasts." A shopcast is kind of a combination of a podcast and a shopping list. You could make one called "Back to School," letting other users know what you think are the best products for college students heading back in the fall or spring. Similarly, you can find others with similar interests and see what they recommend in pretty much any area.

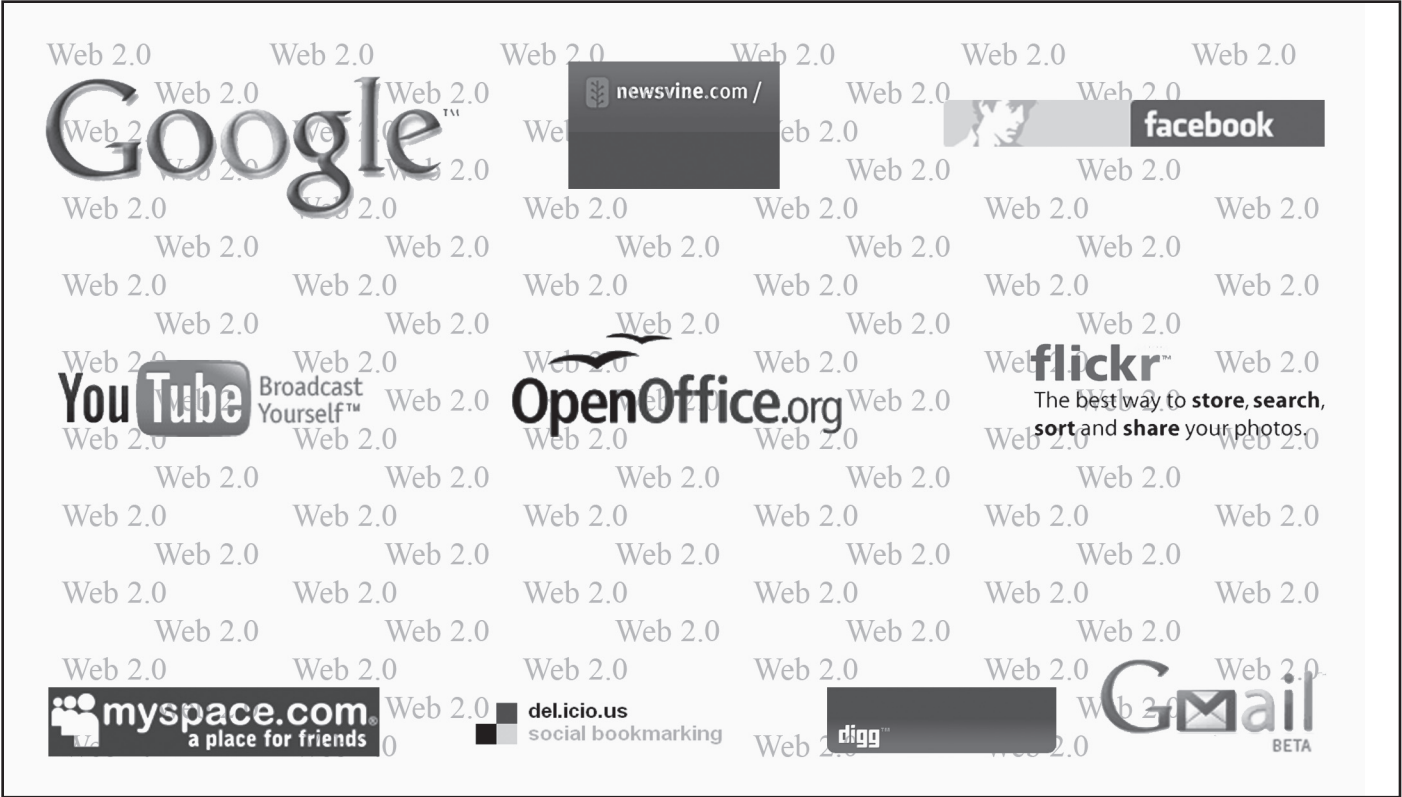
No, Thisnext will not change the world (or the Web), but it provides a great, free service that helps empower you, the consumer. Check it out. Besides, how else will you know what to get me for Christmas?



Standouts



Web 2.0: Is it changing the world?



Matt Cook
Technical Editor

Ever stop to think about the difference between Web sites from the 90s and sites that are around today? The difference lies in a complete change in thinking about how to use the Internet that began to evolve in 2004: Web 2.0.

Most people have no idea how Web 2.0 has changed their lives and are most likely never going to be interested as long as they can keep their Myspace accounts and post photos to Flickr.com. But for the curious few who wonder what this "Web 2.0 junk" is all about, I visited a couple of my favorite Web 2.0 sites - Google and Newsvine- to find out more.

It turns out that the concept of Web 2.0 came into being after the dot-com

bubble deflated in 2001 when many online companies began closing without ever making a profit. When these sites failed, it became apparent that the original concept of the Internet (Web 1.0) was not working. Pages were too static and the individual user was too far removed from the process.

In an effort to move away from the failing Internet concepts, O'Reilly Media and MediaLive International held a conference to discuss where the Internet was headed and how to make it work for an ever changing audience. Their ideas came from sites that survived the bursting bubble and included such principles as tagging, ranking pages, blogging and users contributing content that enhances the online experience for all. These ideas caught on

fast.

Now that Web 2.0 sites have boomed, they allow users to contribute all types of content ranging from pictures (Flickr.com) to encyclopedia articles (en. Wikipedia.org) to personal information (myspace.com and facebook.com) to open source software (openoffice.org).

If one stops to think about how Web 2.0 drastically impact college and high school students alone through Myspace and Facebook it becomes obvious that we of the future generations of the work force and leadership of the world are becoming increasingly connected to people outside our normal circles of influence and in time can become truly global.

The Web 2.0 concept was and is a success because the Internet has grown in

MATT COOK/The Pacer

the years since the Web 1.0 burst and online communities are thriving. The Internet takes up an increasingly large part of peoples' day.

So what does the future hold? Many analysts are already hailing Web 2.0 as finished and are awaiting a "Web 3.0" concept to arrive only to wow users yet again for entertainment and online shopping. A lot of debate will take place on blogs and news media sites over whether Web 3.0 is really necessary since so many Internet users are satisfied with what is available to them online. No one knows for sure what the future of the Internet may be, but for now suffice it to say that Web 2.0 is making our lives a lot easier, faster and interconnected.

Square Enix delivers with Final Fantasy XII

New Final Fantasy worth the wait, may be the greatest so far

Jay Baker
Asst. News Editor

Final Fantasy XII reminds me a lot of my previous experiences with the series. I spent the first few hours comparing it to previous games, and then I realized that it was its own special, unique and engrossing gaming experience.

Final Fantasy XII, the latest installment in Square Enix's domination of the role-playing game world, is one of the best RPG's on the still viable Playstation 2.

The Story

Arguably the most exciting part of any Final Fantasy game, Final Fantasy XII does not disappoint. The story pits two great empires against each other, on the brink of war. Caught in between is the tiny, neutral nation of Dalmasca from which our hero Vaan hails. Vaan quickly finds himself caught up with a dethroned queen and a sky pirate among others in a struggle to restore their annexed kingdom. As always, the computer generated cut scenes look amazing (though this is no surprise). They, along with the rendered scenes tell by far the most mature (and sometimes dark) story of any Final Fantasy to date.

The story is incredibly intricate, you'll really have to pay attention, but you

should not have a problem with that as it extremely absorbing. Also, there is no one character driving the entire story. You'll follow multiple story lines and multiple emotions from love, hate, avarice and loyalty. This trend follows along the lines of other recent pop culture hits like "Lost" and "Heroes," where the story isn't about the introduction of new characters, rather it is about the intricate history, back story and future of each of these new characters.

Long story short: this is the best Final Fantasy story so far, and possibly one of the best on an RPG ever.

Gameplay

The gameplay in Final Fantasy XII features an entirely new battle system. It is a combination of the tra-

"Long story short: this is the best Final Fantasy story so far, and possibly one of the best on an RPG ever."

ditional turn based style, live action and a unique A.I. system that adds an extra dimension.



The key here is to manage your battle plan, as opposed to micro-managing each character's individual actions. This is accomplished through the "gambit" system. Characters can be "programmed" to react in a certain way to certain situations. For instance, you could have Basche (a knight) set to attack the nearest visible enemy. Then Penelo (sort of a mage) could be set to heal party members when they reach below a certain percentage of their HP. The key is to understand your character's abilities, those of your

current enemies, and how to adjust your "gambits" appropriately.

Some hardcore RPGer's may take issue with the break from tradition, but after playing the game for a while you'll see how well suited to this iteration it really is.

Boss battles are as tough as always and seem even more frantic and difficult due to the quasi-real-time nature of the battle system.

New abilities are attained through the "License" board, which looks kind of like Scrabble. Every foe you beat awards at least one LP

— See 'Final Fantasy XII' on Page 9



Final Fantasy XII: from page 8

(license point) which you save up to unlock different magic and/or physical abilities.

It should also be noted that unlike some previous Final Fantasy's, putting in the time to level up pays off. In fact, everything about the game pays off. You can expect to put in anywhere from 40-90+ hours, depending on whether or not you wish to do the side quests/level up etc.

Graphics and Sound

It's no surprise Final Fantasy XII's graphics are amazing. There are some truly awe inspiring scenes through out the game. The opening cut scene is, in my opinion, even better than Final Fantasy X's. It is also important to note that, this time around, there is even better "camera work." Often developers do not take into account camera angle (since are there are no cameras in video games) or they are clueless about cinematog-

raphy. The new art style, is also impressive. Much like the story, it speaks of darker themes. It is also not so extravagant as Final Fantasy X's. Again, Final Fantasy XII's graphics are amazing, that's all that really need to be said.

Final Fantasy XII features an original composition by Hitoshi Sakimoto, the composer for Final Fantasy Tactics. Put simply, it is epic. Combined with the stunning visuals, you may find yourself swept away in an epic yet personal story that big in the way the Lord of the Rings is big.

The Bad

While Final Fantasy XII is a great game, it is not without its flaws. The camera, while fully controllable, is not customizable. So depending on which way you are used to (i.e. push left to move the camera right or push left to move it left), you could end up spending considerable time adjust-

ing to this. Furthermore, the learning curve is a little steep. Also, it takes almost six hours to really get into the game.

While the fact that the size of the world you can experience is huge can be seen as a plus, it is a pain when you have to back track the world map to speak with someone in different city. Not to mention, the cities are huge, making the commute to purchase new items seem tedious sometimes.

Overall

Final Fantasy XII is a huge, epic game that can steal away days of your life without you even noticing, or caring. There is little to dislike and a plethora of things to love. Fans should not (and probably haven't) miss out on this one. Newcomers should check it out, it is arguably the best Final Fantasy so far ... even better than VII.



Final Fantasy XII's battle systems features a seamless blend of real-time, turn based and an intuitive A.I. systems known as "gambits."

Story

10/10

Gameplay

9/10

Graphics

10/10

Sound

9.8/10

Overall

9.8/10

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Second-half play costs Skyhawk men in home loss to Purple Aces

Brad Hurt
Sports Editor

Despite hanging with visiting Evansville through the first half, the Skyhawk men struggled in the second half in a disappointing 75-57 setback Wednesday night at the Elam Center.

The Skyhawks struggled against the Evansville post game, led by forward Matt Webster and center Bradley Strickland. The duo of Purple Ace big men combined for 34 points and 16 rebounds to help their team break open a close game in the second half.

"I think we just need to step up and do a better job of defending and finishing inside," said Skyhawk head coach Bret Campbell.

The inside advantage held by the visitors led to a hot shooting second half and more opportunities to score at the free throw line, where they connected on 16 of 26 attempts in the game. Overall, the Purple Aces shot 58 percent from the floor, including 65 percent in the second half while the Skyhawks could only manage to shoot 36 percent in that period. The Skyhawks shot 41 percent for the game.

The Skyhawks enjoyed an early lead as they began the game with a high level of intensity. They led by as many as four points on two separate occasions in the first half before a stretch of turnovers late in the half

allowed the Purple Aces to jump out on top.

The Skyhawks pulled even for the last time at 26-26 on a jumper by Will Lewis with 4:00 remaining in the first half. Evansville answered by scoring the next four points on its way to a 33-29 halftime lead.

Turnovers would continue to be the Skyhawks' Achilles' heel in the second half as the momentum shifted dramatically to Evansville after the break. The team committed seven turnovers in the second half, leading to eight Evansville points. Skyhawk turnovers accounted for 19 points for their opponents in the game. The sloppy play concerned Campbell.

"We shot ourselves in the foot several times in the second half with turnovers," he said.

The Skyhawks used the three-point shot to remain within striking distance in the first half, connecting on 4-of-5 attempts from beyond the arc.

However, their luck changed in the second half when they made only 2-of-10 long-range shots.

Free throws also played a major role in the game as the Skyhawks attempted only 10 free throws in the game, making seven. Evansville, on the other hand, attempted 26 free throws in the game.

The team will return to action tonight at 7 p.m. when they host Freed-

Hardeman.

The Skyhawks saw the chance to grab an early lead in the conference standings slip through their fingers as they fell to SEMO on Saturday 81-79.

The Redhawks got five points from David Johnson in the final 52 seconds of the game to steal victory from the Skyhawks' talons.

The Skyhawks held a slight lead heading into the final minute of the game but continued to struggle with turnovers.

Bubba Tolliver committed a crucial turnover with 1:10 remaining that led to the go-ahead basket for the Redhawks.

That basket led to a 7-0 run for the Redhawks before a desperation three-pointer for the Skyhawks yielded the final margin.

The Skyhawks trailed at the half by a score of 38-34 but opened the second half with an unusual offensive explosion.

By opening the second half with a 25-8 run, the Skyhawks jumped out to a 59-46 lead with 10:43 remaining in the game.

The Skyhawks got another stellar performance from junior college transfer Gerald Robinson, who led the team with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

The Skyhawks lost despite forcing 21 SEMO turnovers and a 16-for-31 performance by SEMO from the free throw line.



Trevor Ruszkowski/ UTM Sports Information

Skyhawk junior forward Gerald Robinson attempts a shot over Evansville's Bradley Strickland and Matt Webster during Wednesday's game, a 75-57 Skyhawk loss. Robinson led the Skyhawks with 13 points while Will Lewis added 10 points and 12 rebounds in the losing effort. Webster and Strickland posed a problem to the Skyhawks' front line, pushing their way to the basket and combining to score 34 of their team's 75 points and pulling down 16 rebounds. The Skyhawks, who saw the game slip away from them as a result of second half turnovers, dropped a road game to Ohio Valley Conference foe Southeast Missouri State on Saturday by a score of 81-79. In that game, the Skyhawks saw the host Redhawks score seven points in the final minute to drop UTM's record to 1-7 overall and 0-1 in the OVC.

Skyhawk linebacker to display talent for pro scouts at all-star game

UTM Sports Information

UTM senior linebacker Markeseo Jackson (6-0, 220) has been invited to participate in the Magnolia Grid Iron Classic Dec. 23 at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson, Miss.

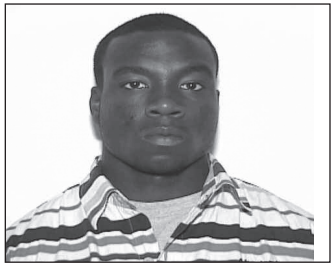
The Magnolia Grid Iron Classic is for the college player whose team has not been invited to a bowl game but has the potential to make it to the NFL. The game will feature Division I Bowl Championship Series players versus Division I Football Championship Series (formally I-AA) players. Division II and NAIA players will fill out the final roster spots.

"This game gives me the opportunity to fulfill my

dream of playing in the NFL," Jackson said.

Jackson is scheduled to arrive in Jackson, Miss., Sunday, Dec. 17 for daily practices and an NFL combine.

Jackson led the Skyhawks with 54 solo tackles and 88 total tackles. He had six tackles for a loss and



Jackson

four sacks. He also had six pass break-ups, two fumble recoveries and three forced fumbles.

Jackson earned second team All-Ohio Valley Conference honors and was among 32 players nominated for the Buck Buchanan Award, Division I-AA's Best Defensive Player honor.

Jackson, who prepped at Memphis Overton, helped lead the Skyhawks to a 9-3 overall record, a 6-1 OVC worksheet and the OVC championship.

The game is expected to receive national television coverage.

The Magnolia Classic matches a Red team, composed of players from Division I-A schools not participating in bowl games, and from certain NAIA schools, against a White team composed of players from Division I-AA, II and III schools.

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Skyhawks stop host Lady Tigers for third straight win; matchup with Summitt, Lady Vols looms

UTM Sports Information

The UTM Skyhawks were led by three players in double figures as they defeated the Memphis Lady Tigers of Conference USA 69-60, Sunday afternoon at FedEx Forum in Memphis, Tenn.

“Today was a big win for us,” said Skyhawk head coach Tara Tansil. “We played well and Andreika had a good game for us. When she was double and triple teamed she did a great job finding her open teammates.”

The Skyhawks jumped out to an early 9-2 lead in the opening four minutes of the game with the help of two Kim Cox three pointers and a pair of jumpers from Phyllisha Mitchell and Whitney Maxey, prompting the Tigers to call an early timeout.

Coming out of the timeout the Lady Tigers put together a 5-0 run led by freshman Hope Adams, before the Skyhawks were able to answer with another three point shot by Cox. The Lady Tigers continued to fight back, eventually taking the lead and pushing it to 24-18 at the 7:30 mark in the first half.

The Skyhawks regained the lead on a Nicole Rivers three pointer with one minute left in the first half and took a 29-28 advantage into the locker room at half-time. UTM shot only 35 percent in the first half but out rebounded the Lady Tigers 18-15.

The Skyhawks came out in the second

half, immediately taking advantage Lady Tiger turnovers in the transition game. Jackson intercepted a pass, taking it coast-to-coast and converting on an old fashioned three-point-play, followed immediately by another Skyhawk steal and a wide open lay up for Crystal Fuller.

The Lady Tigers were able to take the lead back at 45-44 on a jumper by Devin Necaise and pushed it four on a three point basket by Se’erra Fantroy.

A pair of Nicole Holman free throws drew the score even again at 48 all at the 6:21 mark. After an Ashley Thornton basket to give the Lady Tigers the lead again, UTM went on a 12-0 run, putting them ahead to stay and pushing the lead to double digits. Memphis ended its drought on a jumper by Necaise. The Skyhawks finished the game with a nine point advantage and their largest margin of victory this season.

The game featured 14 lead changes and seven ties between the two teams. UTM shot 38 percent from the field and out rebounded the Lady Tigers 36-33.

Jackson finished the night with 17 points and five rebounds. She was joined in the double digit scoring category by Fuller with 14 and Cox with 10. Mitchell finished the afternoon with 11 rebounds.

The Skyhawks will return to action tonight when they travel to Knoxville to take on the No. 4 Tennessee Lady Vols who are led by UTM alum and head coach Pat Head Summitt. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m. at Thompson-Boling Arena.



Trevor Ruszkowski/ UTM Sports Information

Skyhawk forward Andreika Jackson takes the ball up strong to the basket during a recent home game against Dayton. Jackson led all Skyhawk scorers with 17 points in a 69-60 road win over Memphis on Sunday. With the win, which was the team’s third consecutive victory, the Skyhawks improved to 4-1 on the season. The team faces a monumental task tonight when they travel to Knoxville to take on the No. 6 Tennessee Lady Volunteers. The Lady Vols are led by former UTM standout Pat Summitt, who played for the Skyhawks from 1970-74. Summitt’s team leads the all-time series with the Skyhawks 12-2, including a 133-60 victory in the teams’ last meeting, which came during the 1999-2000 season.

GO SKYHAWKS!

Holidays: Continued from Cover

Originally created by Ron Karenga in 1966 as an alternative to Christmas for African-Americans, Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili word “kwanza,” meaning “first fruit.” Like Hanukkah, Kwanzaa features the lighting candles (though only seven).

Practiced almost exclusively by African Americans, Kwanzaa is more of a celebration and embracing of African culture.

As the world moves ever further along the road of globalization, it is becoming increasingly more important to not only be familiar with, but tolerant of a multitude of beliefs and traditions. On that note, The Pacer wishes everyone a “Happy Holidays,” whatever holiday you might call your own.

SGA: Continued from Cover

voter turnout improves,” said Orr.

As a result, the first thing that SGA is doing in hopes to improve this percentage is to advertise the SGA elections more by the way of three gigantic banners being placed on campus.

In other news, legislation to implement a Merit-Based Scholarship Program for International Students was presented to the Senate. This piece of legislation would provide at least ten merit-based academic scholarships, each worth \$3,000 per semester (including summer semesters), to be awarded to the most financially needy international students. These students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and show some other remarkable academic merit.

This piece of legislation has not, yet, been passed. Rather, it has been referred to the Multicultural Affairs Committee for further revision and research.

The Student Organization Coordinator search has been extended to the second week of January.

Erin Smith of the Academic Affairs Committee informed SGA that West Star will not be participating in this year’s Youth Leadership Summit. This will not affect UTM’s participation, however.

“It [Youth Leadership Summit] is a major recruitment opportunity for our school,” said Smith.

Coordinator Laura Humphrey is encouraging all individuals to become Pep leaders next year. Pep leaders are a way to interact with different sets of students that you would otherwise not see on a daily basis. They are looking for a two-week commitment at the beginning of the next school year. This is for a week of training and

the Freshmen Welcome Week. Pep leaders should also keep Mondays at 12 noon open for the General Studies session, where you will further guide your incoming freshmen.

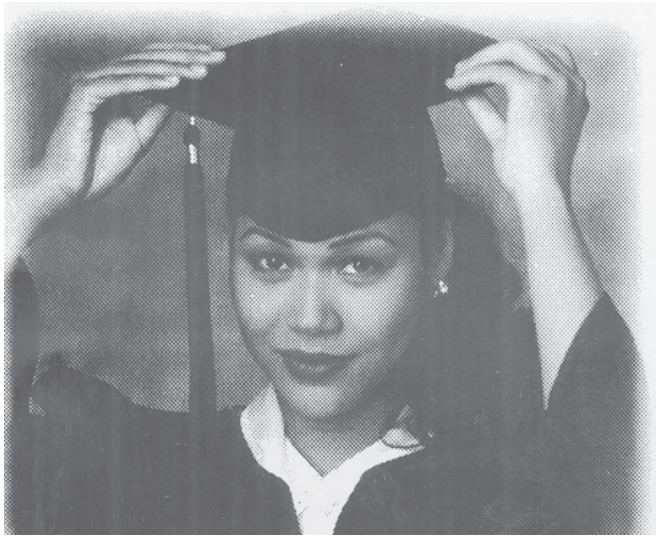
“It’s a very rewarding experience to know that you’ve helped a new group of students,” Humphrey said.

Pep leader applications are due by December 15 at 5 p.m. and are available online. Old pep leaders need not re-apply.

Josh Isbell informed SGA that Greek Life Coordinator Louis Ragdale agreed to give Greek points for a recycling competition during Greek Week. Whoever brings in the most recycled goods will receive Greek points and awards. The money gained from the recycled goods will go directly back into the recycling program, in hopes to make it bigger and better.

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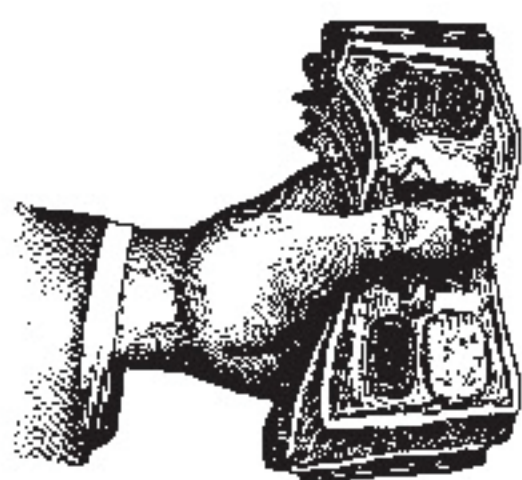
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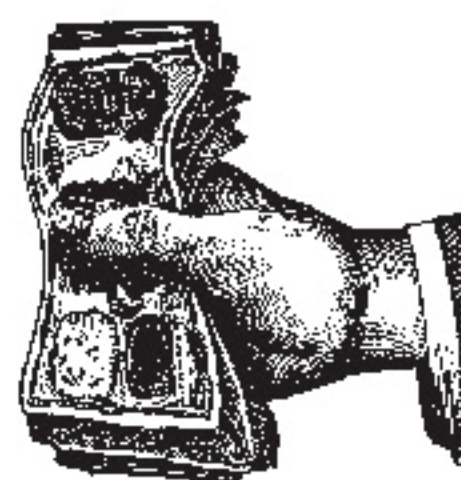
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